

Claims

- 1. (amended) A cash management data processing system for multi-location standardized trading platforms, the Nodes, allowing financial clearing within each Node, and or between any two Nodes, all linked to banking payment system, comprising:
  - a) Segregated Fiduciary accounts and Escrow accounts for customer for each Node;
  - a means for an electronic fund movement between Fiduciary and Escrow accounts for matching purpose at each Node;
  - c) an electronic hub for order routing and matching among all Nodes
  - a means for an electronic fund movement from one Node's Fiduciary accounts to another for matching purpose;
  - e) matching engine based on fixed currency pricing;
  - f) a means for daily cash settlement for open contracts;
  - g) a means for daily settlement against physical delivery;
  - h) means for reporting real time Fiduciary accounts.
- 2. (amended) System of claim 1, wherein the required funds for customer's pending order will be blocked from said Fiduciary accounts until a match is made or the order is canceled.
- 3. (amended) System of claim 2, wherein said Fiduciary accounts hold local currency as well as a fixed foreign currency such as US Dollar.
- 4. (amended) System of claim 1, wherein funds from segregated Fiduciary accounts are moved to segregated Escrow accounts in fixed currency after a match is made within a Node or between two Nodes.
- 5.(new) System of claim 4, wherein the required funds in said Escrow accounts are maintained for the duration of the contract.
- 6. (amended) System of claim 4, wherein a price adjustment to the funds in said Escrow accounts is made as marked-to-market at daily settlement.

- 7.(amended) System of claim 5, wherein said daily price adjustment will result in movement of additional funds from Fiduciary accounts to Escrow accounts or excess fund from Escrow accounts to Fiduciary accounts within a Node and or between two Nodes.
- 8. (amended) System of claim 6, wherein the daily cash settlement is made by adjusting customers said Fiduciary accounts within a Node or in two different Nodes where matching has taken place.
- 9. (amended) System of claim 1 wherein, designated bonded warehouses are utilized for said physical delivery settlement.
- 10.(amended) System of claim 8, wherein, physical delivery settlement is made by, exchanging electronic bonded warehouse receipt of goods with electronic fund transfer from any Nodes' Fiduciary account.
- 11. (amended) System of claim 1, wherein said fund movement includes transfer from Fiduciary accounts in fixed currency from one Node to another Node.
- 12. (amended) System of claim 1 wherein cash settlement of trade is accomplished by moving funds from one Node's Fiduciary accounts to another Node in fixed currency.
- 13. (amended) System of claim 12, wherein the daily settlement time period reflects the time governed by payments system, from the time T representing day 1 to T+1 representing day 2 plus time zone difference depending on Geographical location of Nodes with respect to each other.
- 14.(amended) System of claim 1 wherein the Automatic Clearing House format and Rules are utilized as said banking payment system format wherever the national clearing houses communicate with Federal Reserve Automatic Clearing House through local-bank.
- 15. (amended) System of claim 1 wherein SWIFT protocols such as MT 103 and MT 940 are utilized as international banking payments system protocols to communicate with Nodes using any electronic fund transfer for financial clearing and settlement..

16. (amended) A procedure wherein the real time currency translation from fixed-local currency is computed and credited to (or debited from) respective Fiduciary account at the end of each trading day for settlement purpose.